

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	*	CRIMINAL NO.
v.	*	SECTION:
MICHAEL RICHARD BARK	*	VIOLATION: 18 U.S.C. § 2 18 U.S.C. § 1343

* * *

FACTUAL BASIS

Should this matter have gone to trial, the government would have proved through the introduction of competent testimony and admissible tangible exhibits, including documentary evidence, the following to support the allegations charged by the government in the one count bill of information now pending against the defendant, **MICHAEL RICHARD BARK**.

MICHAEL RICHARD BARK, who holds a law degree, was licensed to practice in Louisiana. In addition to his law practice, he actively sought investors to trade in foreign exchange known as “FOREX” futures. The term “FOREX” refers to the practice of purchasing foreign currencies and attempting to profit from the daily variable values of the foreign currencies versus the value of the U. S. Dollar.

Beginning at a time unknown, but sometime during November 2006 and continuing through on or about February 2009, defendant **MICHAEL RICHARD BARK**, while marketing FOREX investments, falsely represented to his clients that he invested their money in FOREX returning between twelve and thirty percent per month, thus increasing the value of their accounts exponentially.

Instead of investing the funds as promised, defendant **MICHAEL RICHARD BARK** devised a scheme and artifice to defraud his clients, by investing their money in a variety of other business investments designed to return the lofty rates promised or by simply stealing the money. It was further a part of the scheme and artifice to defraud that the defendant **MICHAEL RICHARD BARK**, in order to hide his thefts of monies, devised and created fraudulent FOREX statements which indicated the client was making a monthly profit on the investment and that the initial investment was growing, when in truth and in fact the defendant **MICHAEL RICHARD BARK** was stealing the money, or investing in other high risk businesses not disclosed to the clients. **MICHAEL RICHARD BARK** stole at least \$1,605,942.00 from his clients, as detailed below.

	VICTIM	LOSS
1.	BCM	\$20,000.00
2.	BW	\$15,000.00
3.	CO	\$45,000.00
4.	DH	\$2,000.00
5.	EH	\$85,000.00
6.	EW	\$2,000.00
7.	EH	\$5,000.00
8.	GR	\$1,000.00

	VICTIM	LOSS
9.	GL	\$15,000.00
10.	HG & PH	\$22,000.00
11.	H LLC	\$325,000.00
12.	JK	\$9,500.00
13.	JS	\$10,000.00
14.	KH	\$30,000.00
15.	KSVM	\$6,000.00
16.	KB	\$40,000.00
17.	LJ & SC	\$538,242.64
18.	LW	\$20,000.00
19.	MV	\$10,000.00
20.	MDO	\$23,000.00
21.	NB	\$20,500.00
22.	PL	\$10,000.00
23.	P & JO	\$10,000.00
24.	PD	\$20,000.00
25.	PSO	\$10,000.00
26.	RM	\$20,000.00
27.	RPMJR.	\$15,000.00
28.	RB	\$77,000.00
29.	AM	\$7,500.00
30.	RIW	\$43,000.00
31.	RQ	\$5,700.00
32.	S	\$16,000.00
33.	WB	\$5,000.00
34.	TB	\$78,000.00

35.	ZB	\$1,500.00
36.	UJ	\$25,000.00
37.	TMBS	\$8,000.00
38.	JB	\$9,500.00
TOTAL		\$1,605,942.64

All of these facts would be proved by the testimony of agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, as well as documentary evidence from businesses and financial institutions in the Eastern District of Louisiana.

MICHAEL RICHARD BARK
Defendant

Date

OSCAR ARAUJO, ESQUIRE
Counsel for Defendant

Date

CARTER K. D. GUICE, JR.
Assistant United States Attorney

Date